

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-37, 38-45, 66-94, 95-100, and 121-124 that are pending in the above-identified patent application. Applicants have canceled claims 46-65 and 101-120. No new matter has been added by the claim amendments.

The Examiner takes the position that the claims are directed to four distinct inventions, in accordance with the following Categories:

- I. – sub-harmonic generators (claims 1-27, 66-83, 121, and 123);
- II. – sub-harmonic signal circuit with filter, amplifier and summing circuit (claims 38-45, 95-100, 122, and 124);
- III. – stereo width expansion circuit (claims 55-65 and 111-120); and
- IV. – stereo width expansion circuit with sub-harmonic generator (claims 28-37, 84-94, 46-54, and 101-110).

The Examiner also takes the position that the claims in Category IV are directed to two distinct species:

- Species (A) – directed to sub-harmonic enhancement (claims 28-37 and 84-94); and
- Species (2) – stereo width expansion (claims 46-54 and 101-110).

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement. Applicants submit that the Examiner is mistaken in his conclusion that claims 28-37 and 84-94 (Category IV) are directed to stereo width expansion technology. Instead, they are directed to sub-harmonic enhancement (Category II). Thus, Applicants respectfully request that claims 28-37 and 84-94 be considered together with the claims of Category II.

Further, Applicants believe that the Examiner has erroneously concluded that Categories I and II need to be examined separately. Both categories are directed to sub-harmonic generators. While Category II includes sub-harmonic enhancement (boosting frequencies above the sub-

harmonic range), Applicants submit that sub-harmonic enhancement is an extended feature of sub-harmonic generation.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the restriction requirement be revised into three categories (called "Proposed Categories" hereinbelow):

I. – sub-harmonic generators and enhancement (claims 1-37, 38-45, 66-94, 95-100, 121, 122, 123 and 124);

II. – stereo width expansion circuits (claims 55-65 and 111-120); and

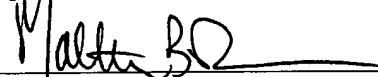
III. - sub-harmonic generators and stereo width expansion circuit (claims 46-54, and 101-110).

In the event that the Examiner accepts Applicants' arguments above, Applicants elect to prosecute the inventions directed to Proposed Category I, claims 1-37, 38-45, 66-94, 95-100, 121, 122, 123 and 124.

Applicants therefore respectfully request reconsideration and allowance in view of the above remarks and amendments. In the event there are any fees due and owing in connection with this matter, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 11-0223.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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